

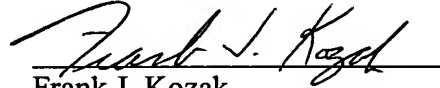
REMARKS

This response addresses the restriction included in the Office Action mailed July 14, 2004. Applicant elects the claims of Group I, namely Claims 24 and 31-40. The non-elected claims have been canceled.

An information disclosure statement and form PTO-1449 listing 49 references were filed with the present application on August 28, 2003. Applicant requests that the Examiner indicate consideration of the information disclosure statement by initialing the appropriate sections of the form PTO-1449 and returning an initialed copy to Applicant. The Examiner's attention to this matter is appreciated. For the convenience of the Examiner, another copy of the form PTO-1449 is included with this response.

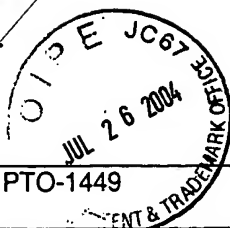
Favorable consideration of the present application is respectfully requested. If an interview would expedite prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank J. Kozak
Reg. No. 32,908
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|---|------------------------------|---------------------|
| FORM PTO-1449 | SERIAL NO. | CASE NO. N0172US |
| LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT | FILING DATE 8/28/2003 | GROUP ART UNIT |
| (use several sheets if necessary) | APPLICANT(S): Khavakh et al. | |

REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS/ SUBCLASS | FILING DATE |
|---------------------|-----|--------------------|------------|------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| | A1 | 6,128,571 | 10/2000 | Ito et al. | | |
| | A2 | 6,038,509 | 03/2000 | Poppen et al. | | |
| | A3 | 5,938,720 | 8/1999 | Tami | | |
| | A4 | 5,899,955 | 05/1999 | Yagyu et al. | | |
| | A5 | 5,659,476 | 08/1997 | LeFebvre et al. | | |
| | A6 | 5,652,706 | 07/1997 | Morimoto et al. | | |
| | A7 | 5,638,280 | 6/10/1997 | Nishimura et al. | | |
| | A8 | 5,612,881 | 3/18/1997 | Moroto et al. | | |
| | A9 | 5,608,635 | 3/4/1997 | Tamai | | |
| | A10 | 5,559,511 | 9/24/1996 | Ito et al. | | |
| | A11 | 5,557,522 | 9/17/1996 | Nakayama et al. | | |
| | A12 | 5,550,538 | 8/27/1996 | Fujii et al. | | |
| | A13 | 5,521,826 | 5/28/1996 | Matsumoto | | |
| | A14 | 5,519,619 | 5/21/1996 | Seda | | |
| | A15 | 5,513,110 | 4/30/1996 | Fujita et al. | | |
| | A16 | 5,508,930 | 4/16/1996 | Smith, Jr. | | |
| | A17 | 5,506,779 | 4/9/1996 | Kanki | | |
| | A18 | 5,506,774 | 4/9/1996 | Nobe et al. | | |
| | A19 | 5,502,640 | 3/26/1996 | Yagyu et al. | | |
| | A20 | 5,475,387 | 12/12/1995 | Matsumoto | | |
| | A21 | 5,467,276 | 11/14/1995 | Tsuyuki | | |
| | A22 | 5,459,667 | 10/17/1995 | Odagaki et al. | | |
| | A23 | 5,442,349 | 8/15/1995 | Inoue et al. | | |
| | A24 | 5,428,545 | 6/27/1995 | Maegawa et al. | | |
| | A25 | 5,410,485 | 4/25/1995 | Ichikawa | | |
| | A26 | 5,371,678 | 12/6/1994 | Nomura | | |
| | A27 | 5,369,588 | 11/29/1994 | Hayami et al. | | |
| | A28 | 5,311,434 | 5/10/1994 | Tamai | | |
| | A29 | 5,303,159 | 4/12/1994 | Tamai et al. | | |
| | A30 | 5,291,414 | 3/1/1994 | Tamai et al. | | |
| | A31 | 5,291,413 | 3/1/1994 | Tamai et al. | | |

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

| | | |
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| AM PTO-1449 | SERIAL NO. | CASE NO. N0172US |
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS/ SUBCLASS | FILING DATE |
|---------------------|-----|--------------------|------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| | A32 | 5,291,412 | 3/1/1994 | Tamai et al. | | |
| | A33 | 5,272,638 | 12/21/1993 | Martin et al. | | |
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| | A35 | 5,204,817 | 4/20/1993 | Yoshida | | |
| | A36 | 5,187,667 | 2/1993 | Short | | |
| | A37 | 5,184,303 | 2/2/1993 | Link | | |
| | A38 | 5,168,452 | 12/1992 | Yamada et al. | | |
| | A39 | 5,103,400 | 4/7/1992 | Yamada et al. | | |
| | A40 | 5,041,983 | 8/20/1991 | Nakahara et al. | | |
| | A41 | 5,031,104 | 7/9/1991 | Ikeda et al. | | |
| | A42 | 4,937,753 | 6/26/1990 | Yamada | | |
| | A43 | 4,926,336 | 5/15/1990 | Yamada | | |
| | A44 | 4,812,990 | 3/1989 | Adams et al. | | |
| | A45 | 4,796,189 | 1/3/1989 | Nakayama et al. | | |
| | A46 | 4,794,528 | 12/1988 | Hirose et al. | | |
| | A47 | 4,782,447 | 11/1/1988 | Ueno et al. | | |
| | A48 | 4,763,270 | 8/9/1988 | Itoh et al. | | |
| | A49 | 4,570,227 | 2/11/1986 | Tachi et al. | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS/ SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES | NO |
|---------------------|-----|--------------------|------|---------|--------------------|--------------------|----|
| | A50 | | | | | | |
| | A51 | | | | | | |
| | A52 | | | | | | |
| | A53 | | | | | | |
| | A54 | | | | | | |

| EXAMINER INITIAL | OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) |
|---------------------|--|
| | A55 |
| | A56 |
| | A57 |
| | A58 |
| | A59 |

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